

Serial No.: 09/588,443
Attorney Docket No.: E-848

Patent

REMARKS

1. Status of Claims

Claims 1-15 were pending in the Application. Applicants have amended claims 4, 9 and 14 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants have canceled claims 1-3, 6-8 and 11-13 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants respectfully request entry of the above amendments and consideration of the enclosed remarks. Applicants submit that no new matter is added. The Amendments are submitted solely to place the present application in condition for allowance or in better condition for appeal.

2. Rejections

In sections 4 and 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 6-8 and 11-13.

Solely in order to expedite prosecution, the Applicant has canceled 1-3, 6-8 and 11-13 and the rejections are moot. Applicant again submits that the statements of official notice were not adequately defined, should be rarely used on final rejection and are traversed.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections.

3. Conclusion Of Remarks

For at least the reasons stated above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims of this application are in condition for allowance and early and favorable action thereon is requested.

If the Examiner believes that additional issues may be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned attorney for Applicant at (203) 924-3180.

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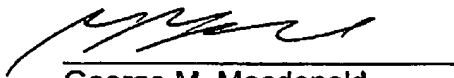
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4. Authorization

Please charge the required fee as specified in the Amendment Transmittal letter enclosed herewith. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for the response or credit any overpayment to the Pitney Bowes, Inc. Deposit Account Number 16-1885, Order No. E-848.

In the event that an extension of time or additional extension of time is required to make this response timely filed, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to the Pitney Bowes, Inc. Deposit Account Number 16-1885, Order No. E-848.

Respectfully submitted,



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